AAIB Bulletin No: 6/2004

Ref: EW/G2004/04/05

Aircraft Type and Registration:	DH82A Tiger Moth, G-APAM	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Gipsy Major piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1939	
Date & Time (UTC):	5 April 2004 at 1130 hrs	
Location:	Radley Farm, near Hungerford, Wiltshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Rear spar of the upper wing and rudder broken. Cowling dented and propeller broken	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	62 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,886 hours (of which 850 were on type) Last 90 days - 1 hour Last 28 days - 1 hour	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot had planned to reposition his two aircraft from one private strip to another two miles away. The pilot described the meteorological conditions as blustery with showers, the prevailing surface wind was estimated to be westerly at 15-20 kt. The flight of the first aircraft, a Puss Moth, was uneventful and the cross wind component during that approach was about 45° from the right.

When attempting the subsequent landing in the Tiger Moth the aircraft drifted to the left just prior to touchdown. After touchdown the aircraft ran parallel with the runway centreline, about 2 metres from the left hand edge. As it slowed to about 10 mph a gust of wind lifted the right wing and the left wing contacted the ground. This caused the aircraft to turn to the left, the left main wheel ran into rough ground and the aircraft tipped onto its nose before coming to rest inverted.

With commendable honesty the pilot acknowledged that he should have noticed that the wind had increased and backed since his previous landing and recognises that the gust of wind occurred at a particularly vulnerable phase of the landing.